



2022 March/April

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by Marlene Armfield



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We Can't Thank You Enough

**We at Westie Rescue Network want to thank the following people for their
generous financial donations in 2021**

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West Highland White Terrier
Club of Greater Denver





Happy Tales

Recent Adoptions



Fairway

Bob welcomed our newest volunteer transporter with these words, "As a fellow transporter, I have one warning (perhaps). When I transport, I can't stop at home and let my wife Linda see the little Westie because she would fall in love immediately and we would have a dozen Westies! Our new little rescue, Fairway (formerly "Hiccup"), came to us on Dec 1st. I transported him from Colorado Springs to Denver the middle of November, but had a couple hours at home with him. Linda was home. End of story. We are his forever home now and very happy!

~Bob & Linda Gravelle

Abi

We adopted Abi on Jan 14th. After not having a dog for 2 years, our home is now full of dog love again. Abi, who is ten years old, has a very young spirit. She is a social butterfly and loves all humans and animals except for squirrels. She recently met her two schnauzer cousins and is fitting into the family perfectly. Not a fan of dog beds, she has made it clear she's a couch girl only, as well as a human bed girl.

Special thanks to Karen Neff and Sarah Doud for communicating that Abi was a very special Westie and convincing us to open our heart and home to her.

~Dianne and Dave Veno



Editor's Note: Dianne is starting her 6th year as the WRN Calendar Editor. She has been the Adoption coordinator for 2 years. I am so glad she and David FINALLY have a Westie to love. Yea!



Another Happy Tale



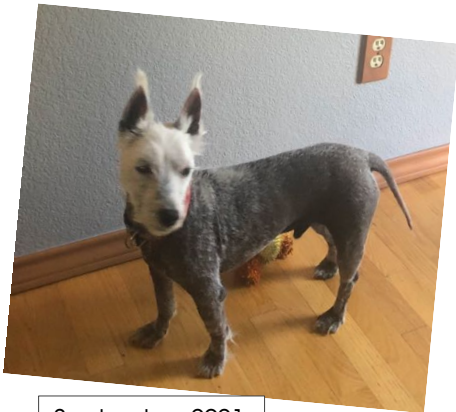
Holmes

We moved to Colorado in June of 2021 with our 3 parrots and 2 older dogs. In August our French bulldog, Dobby, suddenly developed seizures and passed away. We lost our Golden cross, Myles, a couple of months later to cancer. I have lived with three charming Westies in the past.

After our Frenchie died, my husband said, "let's get another Westie." I put in my application for a rescue Westie to Westie Rescue Network. As a veterinary dermatologist, I tend to adopt dogs with chronic allergies. My first 3 Westies were atopic, and because of what I do, I think I can make a good home for dogs with atopic dermatitis. I know what it takes to control this disease, and I have realistic expectations for what progress we should expect to achieve. Hence Holmes!

Holmes was brought into Westie Rescue Network in September. As I understand his story, his owner was unable to manage his chronic skin disease. Thanks to Westie Rescue Network, he was seen by a wonderful veterinarian, Dr. Erin Walters, and he was fostered by Deb Saret. I had the good fortune to be invited to the Westie Fest in September where I first met Holmes. He was wearing a body suit and boots because his skin was so inflamed. I was impressed with his intelligence and his good nature. I thought we would love him.

Because of our jobs, which involve travel, I was unable to adopt Holmes immediately. I needed to be home for several weeks to get him acclimated to us. That didn't happen until the beginning of November. His foster mom, Deb Saret, was kind enough to take care of him until we could have him.



September 2021

Holmes has severe atopic dermatitis. He was almost completely bald and very red and itchy. He was worked up completely with Dr. Walters and her colleagues. She prescribed an isoxazoline parasite preventive afoxolaner (Nexgard) which is known to control fleas and ticks, but also any mites! An antibiotic was prescribed for his skin infection. Apoquel was prescribed for itch and inflammation. Dr. Walters and I agreed a couple of weeks later that he was much improved, but we added on injectable medication Cytopoint, to provide additional control of itch and inflammation. We also started fluconazole, an antifungal drug, as many Westies have Malassezia hypersensitivity (an allergy to the yeast on their skin).

A serum allergy test was run at Heska, and Holmes had a very positive test to several pollens, and a storage mite. He is currently taking allergy drops from Heska, to try to decrease his sensitivity. Allergy immunotherapy, whether by drops or injections, is the only therapy that can actually change the immune system, although it can take a year or more.

When we first adopted Holmes, I started bathing him twice a week in antimicrobial shampoos as well as a topical skin barrier repair spot-on. Two months later, we are bathing him once a week, and applying a topical barrier repair lipid after the bath. He takes heartworm prevention and ectoparasite control once monthly (Simparica Trio), he gets his Cytopoint every 5-6 weeks, he takes Apoquel once daily, and he is eating Purina DRM, a trout-based prescription diet meant to support the skin of dogs with atopic dermatitis. He takes his allergy drops from Heska twice daily.



Holmes has had some amazing hair regrowth. He may never have a normal Westie coat, but we will see! He is comfortable and he is helping to heal our hearts. He has a very high IQ, and is so responsive to us and our needs. He is a lot of fun, loves to play, and is interested in everything! Loves his daily walks.

In early December, we were gifted with a lovely female Westie called Izzy. She is also atopic, but not as severe as Holmes. These two seem to really enjoy each other's company, and it makes us happy to have 2 dogs. They get dog socialization and people fun as well.



January 2022



Adoption Process

The Adoption Process starts with an "Inquiry" on WRN's web site, followed by an interview, in order to get an Application to complete and return. The process is best explained from the perspective of the Adoptee; so here is Sarah's story:

About a year ago, I started putting out the word that I was looking for a middle-aged, middle-sized, handsome dog with a sense of humor. I meant all that, but the sense of humor was to give me some discretion if people wanted to give me their grumpy dogs. I had talked to the Westie Rescue Network (WRN), but gave up because there were so many people on the list who wanted to adopt. A great friend kept encouraging and promoting the idea that I should have a dog, preferably a Westie.

Last fall, I got a call because there was a 4-year-old Westie who was charming in every way except that she could be aggressive with other dogs, and the WRN's thoughtful evaluators decided she should be in a one-pet household.

Her history was known. She came from an out-of-state home whose owner could not keep her. She was brought to Colorado by a family member who found that she did not get along with other household pets. Then she went to an excellent experienced WRN foster who has fostered a number of dogs and has good judgment about how to welcome a dog who may have had upsetting recent experiences. Julie thought she was a friendly, well-behaved, good sport, but that she was unmannerly in her competitiveness with Julie's other dog.

WRN is made up of people who know a lot about these dogs and care greatly about them. I could see in all my dealings with them that the primary goal was always what was best for the individual dog. The day after I heard about her, there happened to be an annual get together for the people and dogs who have been involved with the Network, so I took an objective friend with me to meet the possible new roommate. That event was a scene to behold, all these friendly people who knew many of the other people and dogs and a great gathering of similar-looking little Westies. There were a lot of connections from past adoptions and fostering. People would laugh and comment on a particular dog they knew that was zooming around the back yard.

I was given a lot of information about her background, the experience of Julie, the very experienced foster host, and others. At every step, they were careful and concerned about the well-being of the dog. I filled out their questionnaire about my experience and expectations about being responsible for this creature. I went to Julie's to be with the Westie in her house and see how she reacted to me and how she was with Julie's other dog. We all went for a walk and checked on the neighborhood squirrels. A few days later, the adoption coordinators (and another Westie owner and friend, and my objective dog advisor) came to my house to see how we would get along. We sat around and talked dogs while the prospective adoptee explored. We went for a walk in my neighborhood. A few days later, I kept her for an afternoon. Then the decision was made, she had her veterinarian exam, and she moved in.

I want to emphasize how experienced and careful everyone was to be sure it was a good match. I was given written information about her habits and food, her schedule, and things that she might improve (the dog aggression and that she stared at you while you were eating, a pretty short list). They gave me her crate, leash and harness, some of her food and treats, and some of her toys, and they made it clear that they were available to talk, and we have. People followed up to see how things were going and just to talk. I have kept in touch with Julie and Sandy (the Westie owner and friend who came for the initial visit at my house). They are delightful people to know.

By the time Jessie, my new Westie, started sleeping here, she knew me some, and had her own bed, food, dishes, treats, and schedule. I deliberately stayed home with her the first week, playing often, walking many times a day. She has been relaxed about having a bath, going places in the car.

She is good natured, a good sport, friendly, delighted to meet new humans, has nice manners, and is pretty relaxed and cooperative. For instance, one of the first important safety things to me was that she wait while I went up or down stairs, and then come when I called. She acknowledges my preference that she not stare while I am eating, and she has been a good sport when I have had friends over to dinner.

Another fabulous WRN success story!



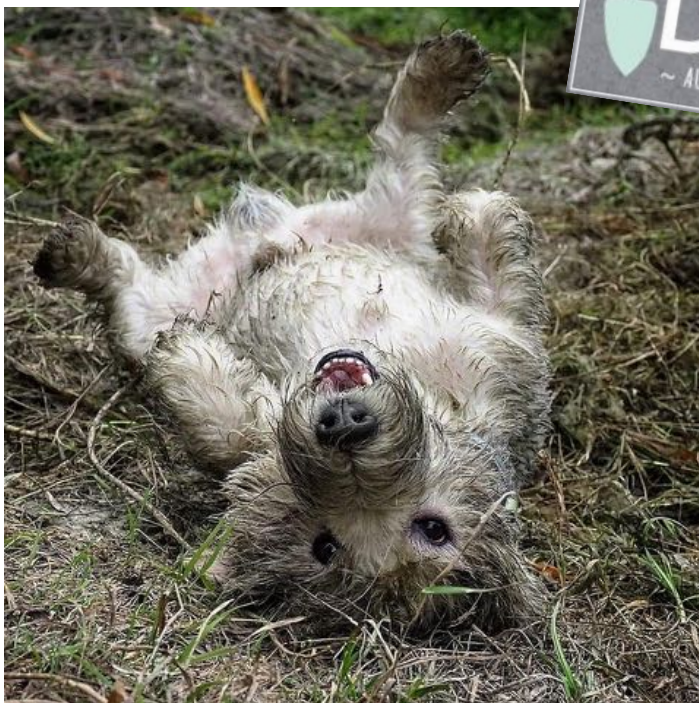
Dirty Dawgs



"I wasn't digging in the garden."
~from Mary Westdorp



~from Sharry Hitchens



~from Misty

From the Editor

Send your Spot the Westie photos, and any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

marmfield@aol.com

Flying Westies

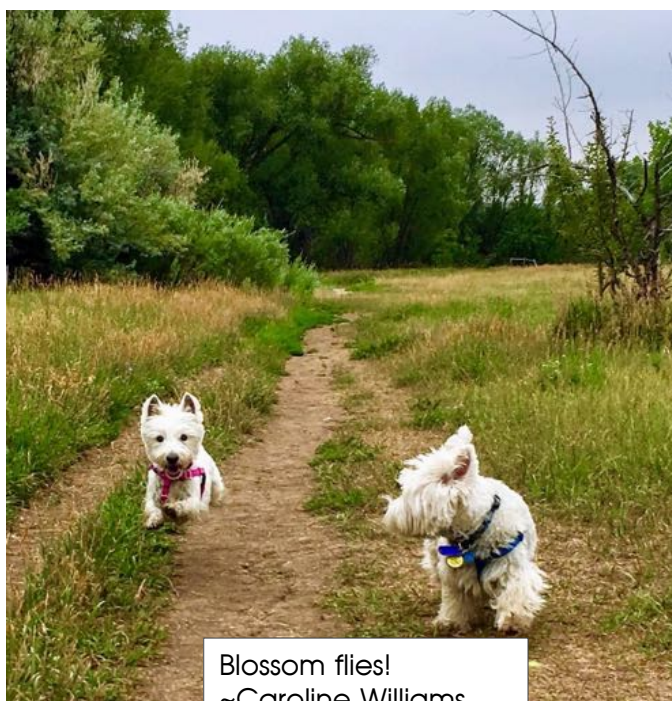


Here I come to save the day
~Finn & Gary E. Hilton



Maggie at the Yachats
Oregon beach

FOR THOSE DETERMINED
TO FLY, HAVING NO WINGS
IS JUST A LITTLE DETAIL.
Princess Sassy Pants & Co.™



Blossom flies!
~Caroline Williams



"Westies can fly. Here is Daisy. I imagine the big dog
saying to the other big dog, "Look dude she can fly."
~ABonita Scarf

From the Editor

Send your Flying Westies photos, and
any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

marmfield@aol.com



West Highland White Terriers and their people! are invited to participate in the 38th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, after two years of COVID deferment. The parade will be held on **Saturday, March 12, 2022, at 12:00 Noon** in Downtown **Colorado Springs**.

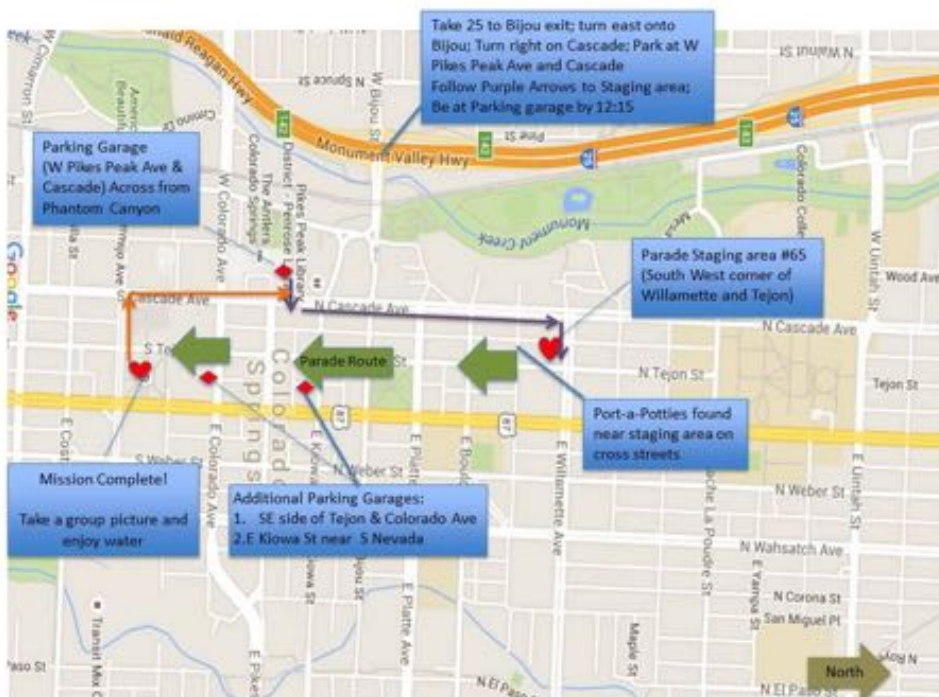
The Parade Route starts at Tejon & St. Vrain Streets, marching south on Tejon Street to Vermijo Street where we will disband. See map below. Immediately before the parade, the "5K on St. Patrick's Day" Race will be held at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Wee Leprechaun Fun Run at 11:00 a.m. Both races start at Acacia Park. And if that's not enough, we have a Bike Ride starting at 8:30 a.m. too! It's going to be a fun-filled day!

Reminders:

No Alcohol allowed.

No throwing of Candy.

Pooper Scoopers: All animal groups must have a pooper scooper following their unit.



Please RSVP your name and number of dogs to
mark.ianacone@gmail.com



Westies in the snow

Our Westies love the snow. So before all of the snow is completely gone, take a look at how they are enjoying themselves.



Benny
~Sara Smille



SNOWFALL ROUSES
YOUR INNER CHILD TO DREAM
AND PLAY ONCE MORE

~Angie Weiland- Crosby



Spot the Westie



Gizmo spotted on the security camera
~Gail Tinianow

From the Editor

Send your Spot the Westie photos, and any other pictures, stories, and ideas to

marmfield@aol.com



We will miss you! RIP,
Betty White

January 17, 2022

#BettyWhiteChallenge

This viral campaign was created to honor Betty White on January 17th, which would have been her 100th birthday, suggesting people donate to their favorite animal rescue. We listed this on our Westie Rescue Network Facebook page, and received donations adding up to \$505. Every little bit helps. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

Happy Birthday Betty!



Shopping at Amazon Gives You and WRN The Best Rewards

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Westie Rescue Network every time you shop--at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, they will donate a portion of the purchase price to WRN.

Step 1: Go to smile.amazon.com,

Step 2: Select Westie Rescue Network, before you begin shopping.

Step 3: Amazon remembers your selection, and every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

www.facebook.com/westierescuenetworkinc/



March 21 National Westie Day

March 21st is National Westie Day marked by the passing of the 16th Laird of the MacCullum-Malcom! Edward Donald Malcolm died on March 20, 1930, at 92 years old. He was fortunate to have witnessed the development of his breed into not only a working dog, but a show dog and popular pet worldwide. Today, Col. Malcolm is regarded as the man who not only bred the right type, but brought the Westie to public notice.



Col. Edward Donald Malcolm and his Pottaloch Terriers, circa 1901